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Canadian soldier dies in bomb blast

AFGHANISTAN A Canadian soldier was killed and three others were injured in southern Afghanistan yesterday when their armoured vehicle detonated a roadside bomb, military officials said.

Canada has now lost 107 soldiers since it first sent forces to Afghanistan in 2002. The dead man — identified as Trooper Brian Richard Good from The Royal Canadian Dragoons based at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa — was the 10th member of the Canadian Armed Forces to die in bomb blasts in just over a month.

Good was married and had two daughters.

Col. Jamie Cade, acting commander of Canadian forces in Kandahar, said the bomb exploded during a military operation around 35 kilometres north of the city, but gave few other details.

Cade described the problem of roadside bombs as “definitely a plague” and one that was difficult to fight.

REUTERS

Canada pg 3

Alleged polygamists arrested

Celebrity Buzz pg 14

Clooney linked to Paris



Homes pg 10

A good time to clean up

Food pg 11



Beans pack healthy punch

Middle East Hopes raised for Gaza truce



An Israeli woman and her two children take cover during a rocket attack near Kfar Aza, just outside the northern Gaza Strip. The Israeli offensive continued yesterday, but U.S. backing of a proposed truce raised hopes for peace. See story on page 5

Replacement workers loom if offer rejected

OC Transpo members vote today on city's latest proposal

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

Replacement workers could be brought in to drive buses if the 2,300 striking OC Transpo members vote to reject the city's latest contract today.

“I won't comment on replacement workers directly, but when we go back to council next Wednesday, all of the legally available mitigation options will be open to us,” said Mayor Larry O'Brien. “You wouldn't talk about replacement workers while you're trying get people to vote on what you thought was a very fair and reasonable offer.”

In a memo sent to councilors yesterday, city man-

“They're using every dirty trick in the book to get our members to accept their offer.”

Jim Haddad, ATU Local 279 secretary-treasurer

ager Kent Kirkpatrick wrote that the use of replacement workers is a legal action but only “as long as it is clear that the action is taken with the goal of maintaining operations and not the ‘breaking’ of the union.”

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 279 secretary-treasurer Jim Haddad dismissed talk of replacement workers as just a scare tactic.

“They're using every dirty trick in the book to get our members to accept their offer,” he said.

OC Transpo employees

are voting on the city's offer today at the Ottawa Civic Centre. Results from the vote will be released after the voting window closes at 8 p.m.

In a letter to OC Transpo employees posted on the union website, ATU 279 president Andre Cornellier urged members not to let the city break their spirit and starve them into submission.

“The city hopes that a Yes vote will provide short-term relief from a four-week-old strike, but hopes you ignore the long-term pain that will come with

the deal,” he wrote. “After a lifetime in service to this membership, I can say to you — this is a bad settlement from which we will never recover.”

O'Brien said the union leadership told members that voting No on the first offer would only strengthen their position and lead to a quick resolution.

“Now, we're almost 30 days into the strike,” he said. “There is no conceivable way that they will be back to work next week with a No vote.”

However, O'Brien said the city would be delighted to welcome employees back in the case of a Yes vote, and the city would be working non-stop to get the system back to full capacity over the next week.

Female war resister told to go home

REFUGEE CLAIM When Kimberley Rivera shipped out to serve in Iraq with the U.S. army in the fall of 2006, she saw herself rebuilding homes, feeding the hungry and helping children.

Barely three months into her 15-month mission, Rivera, a gate guard in Baghdad, had had enough.

A young mother herself, she says she was haunted by the sight of children crying, forever traumatized by the war.

While on leave for two weeks, Rivera says, she decided she couldn't go back to war.

In January 2007, she packed up her family from Fort Carson, Colo., and



Kimberley Rivera drove to Canada, hoping to obtain refugee status on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

Rivera, the first female U.S. Iraq war resister to seek refuge in Canada, was told by the Immigration and Refugee Board yesterday morning that she and her family must leave the country by Jan. 27 or face deportation.

The decision will force Rivera, 26, to uproot her family — her husband, Mario, and their three children, including six-week-old daughter Katie, born in Canada — from their Toronto home. In the United States, she faces the prospect of jail for deserting the army.

Approximately 200 American war resisters are believed to be living in Canada. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

ShareYourViews

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A former Orleans arts group will offer art classes next year from the community's new \$37-million arts centre after being absorbed by the Ottawa School of Art. The Visual Art Centre Orleans has become the Orleans campus of the art school in the school's first expansion in its 130-year history, the school announced Tuesday at a news conference. **CBC.CA**

Local



Cops seek New Year's Day robber

Ottawa police are searching for a man in connection with a robbery at a Bank Street Canadian Tire gas station on New Year's Day. The suspect is described as an English-speaking, 5-foot-11, clean-shaven black male about 18 years old. He was wearing a black tuque with a symbol on the back, black sunglasses and a black T-shirt, with a white T-shirt underneath. He also wore black pants and dark boots. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477 (TIPS). **METRO OTTAWA**

News in brief

HOCKEY Along with record crowds in attendance at Scotiabank Place and the Civic Centre, Team Canada's gold medal win over Sweden attracted a record-breaking television audience of 3.7 million for TSN, surpassing the network's previous high of 3.5 million viewers for the 2003 world junior championship in Halifax.

CRASH Two Almonte residents are recovering from critical injuries in hospital after they were injured in a fatal plane crash that killed two others near Quebec City early Tuesday morning. Dan Weir and Stephanie Shipway survived the fatal crash, which killed pilot Jesse Barrie, 27, also of Almonte. Jeffrey Hugues McClymont also died in the crash.

COMPLAINT The OC Transpo workers' union and its president, Andre Cornellier, has filed a complaint against CFRA's Lowell Green, alleging he encouraged violence against striking union members. The Amalgamated Transit Union Local 279 cited comments made by Green on Dec. 9 and 12. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Medicine Scientists are developing tiny robots to fight disease from the inside at metronews.ca/canada

Video Military pays tribute to Trooper Good in Kandahar at metronews.ca/canada

Video Experts predict Canada's economic fortunes will worsen in '09 at metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries KENO 6/49

Lotto 6/49: 10, 13, 19, 35, 39 & 41 Bonus 4
Ontario 49: 3, 17, 24, 39, 40 & 43 Bonus 33
Ontario Pick 3: 3 9 3; Ontario Pick 4: 0 3 5 1
Encore: 3316873

Daily Keno: 5, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 28, 36, 39, 49
50, 55, 56, 57, 60, 62, 66, 68, 69, 70
These results are not official.

Coalition says no to bridge

Communities forgotten in Kettle Island consultant's report: Groups

KATHRYN YOUNG
for Metro Ottawa



A dozen community associations and even more individuals will urge councillors to reject the Kettle Island bridge site when the city's transportation committee meets next Monday.

"Ideally, all three levels of government would reject this recommendation and choose an alternative to go to Phase 2," said Judy Lishman, chair of the Manor Park Community Association's bridge committee.

Consultant ROCHE-NCE, which released its final recommendation this week, said all outstanding issues, such as noise, traffic and environmental effects, could be reduced, but Lishman said the affected community associations disagree.

Increased truck traffic on the Kettle Island route, for example, would increase air and noise pollution through existing neighbourhoods, and the vibrations and ferrous metals in the trucks could affect the MRI machine to be located in the Montfort Hospital in a room overlooking the

"If people were valued in a reasonable way, then the recommended location would change."

Jane Brammer, coalition Chair

route leading to the bridge, she said.

"That's how sensitive it is — trucks carrying ferrous metals can disturb it. There's no mitigation possible for that," she said, citing a long list of other objections. "It's ridiculous to carry the wrong solution into Phase 2 and spend another several million dollars looking at it when these hazards

cannot be mitigated."

While east-end community associations support the Kettle Island Bridge, a coalition of 15 community groups in the area affected does not, said coalition chair Jane Brammer, who will also lobby local Ontario MPPs as well as the National Capital Commission and the Ontario and Quebec transportation ministries,

which funded the ROCHE-NCE report.

The consultant's recommendation was based on a mathematical assessment that gave too much weight to traffic and cost issues at the expense of human and community concerns, the coalition argues.

"It goes beyond moving cars from point A to point B as fast as possible," said Brammer. "If people were valued in a reasonable way, then the recommended location would change. And it can be done if more open minds are brought to the Phase 2 assessment."

Storm and strike mix for unusual road result

KATHRYN YOUNG
for Metro Ottawa



Heavy snow combined with the OC Transpo bus strike actually helped reduce the number of accidents on Ottawa's roads yesterday.

Ontario Provincial Police reported only 15 minor collisions on the Queensway by early afternoon when 13 centimetres of snow had fallen, although dozens of vehicles had also slid into ditches. No injuries were reported.

"I'm actually quite surprised," said OPP Const. Tracey McDonald. Because the snowplows had trouble keeping up, drivers slowed

down. And traffic speeds were further reduced by heavier vehicle volume due to the OC Transpo bus strike.

"That may be helping because they can't speed," McDonald said.

Ottawa police also reported fewer accidents than normal due to slower speeds and the bus strike.

"It's helping in reducing the accidents," said Const. Alain Boucher, adding by mid-afternoon there had been only 53 minor accidents with no major injuries, when 100 would be the norm.

Gatineau police also re-

ported a quiet day, despite the greasy roads.

Geoff Coulson, a warning preparedness meteorologist with Environment Canada, said a further 10 centimetres of snow was expected last

night, tapering to lighter snow for today's morning rush hour, with a total of 25 to 30 centimetres overall.

"The worst of the accumulating snow will be tapering off overnight," Coulson said.

McDonald said Ottawa drivers have had enough practice with winter driving so far that they weathered yesterday's snowstorm well.

"I'm actually quite surprised."

Tracey McDonald

Safe shovelling tips from the Professional Paramedic Association

- Treat shovelling like a workout — stretch beforehand, drink water, take breaks, bend at the knees when you lift and don't do too much all at once.
- Avoid caffeine and nicotine — which increase heart rates and constrict blood vessels — before shovelling.
- Wear proper footwear and use an ergonomic chest-height shovel with a curved handle.
- Avoid shovelling just after waking up, since your back is most vulnerable to injury then.

METRO OTTAWA

Rights Political decisions



Adam Joannis, 13, shows his support for the Algonquins of Barriere Lake at a rally in front of the headquarters of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada in Gatineau. Protesters demanded the Canadian government respect the Barriere Lake Algonquins' right to decide their political representatives.

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No ransom request yet for kidnapped Canadian

Canada has not received a ransom demand for a special UN envoy who was abducted in Niger last month, Foreign Minister Lawrence Cannon said yesterday. Robert Fowler, a former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations, and his aide Louis Guay were kidnapped Dec. 14. **REUTERS**

Canada



Red Bull's language barrier

Red Bull Crashed Ice, a race in which skaters in full hockey gear hurl themselves down a very steep, 550-metre chute of ice, has drawn the attention of Quebec's language police. Scheduled to take place in Quebec City on Jan. 24, the race has no French name. The language police have suggested calling the contest "patinage de descente extrême (extreme descent skating)" but have not yet made an official request.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lawsuit launched over duck deaths

ALBERTA An environmental activist is taking oil giant Syncrude to court over the 500 geese that met an oily end last spring.

Jeh Custer, a representative of the Sierra Club of Canada, has launched a lawsuit against the oil company because he feels justice has not been served.

A flock of 500 migratory birds landed on the toxic Aurora mine tailings pond in April. All but a handful of the waterfowl became soaked in oil, sank to the bottom of the pond and died.

METRO CANADA

News in brief

SENTENCE Owing creditors millions of dollars and convicted for contempt of court, a Richmond Hill, Ont., couple yesterday had their lengthy jail sentences reduced to just seven days each. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Alleged polygamists arrested

Marks first time polygamy law has been enforced in Canada

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

Two members of the alleged polygamist community of Bountiful, B.C., including leader Winston Blackmore, were arrested yesterday in what B.C.'s attorney general says is the first time Canada's polygamy law has been enforced.

Blackmore, 52, and James Oler, 44, have been charged with having multiple wives, which is against the law under Section 293 of the Criminal Code.

It's alleged Blackmore has 20 wives and Oler has two. "I think this situation is intolerable. I don't think right-thinking Canadians want this situation to exist," Attorney General Wally Oppal said.



B.C. Attorney General Wally Oppal, left, and RCMP Sgt. Tim Shields talk to media in Vancouver yesterday after two members of a polygamist group were arrested.

"We've always felt that there has been exploitation (in Bountiful)," he added. "The question was whether, given our laws, we were in a

position to proceed (with charges), and we determined we were."

The RCMP has been investigating allegations of polygamy and exploitation

in the small religious settlement near Creston for 20 years.

In 2005, Oppal appointed an independent special prosecutor, Terrence Robertson, to determine whether a prosecution was warranted.

He said it's now up to the courts to decide whether the men's rights to religious freedom will trump the laws prohibiting polygamy.

Blackmore is considered the leader of the community of 1,000 people, who are members of the Fundamental Church of Latter Day Saints.

RCMP Sgt. Tim Shields said there's no indication any of the alleged wives are under the age of 18, but added many of them were likely married at around 15.

Soldier facing murder charges released on bail

PETAWAWA Canadian Armed Forces Capt. Robert Semrau, charged with second-degree murder in last fall's shooting death of a severely injured Taliban fighter in Afghanistan, was released yesterday from custody.

"I am satisfied on the balance of probability... that custody is not necessary," Military Judge Lt.-Col.

Louis-Vincent d'Auteuil told the hearing.

After being held for eight days, Semrau showed obvious relief.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bail

- One of Semrau's bail conditions is that he not possess weapons, ammunition or explosives, even in the course of his military duties.

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The public inquiry into the Mulroney-Schreiber affair will not wrap up until the end of the year after commission head Justice Jeffrey O'Leary was given more time to write his final report. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Israeli consulate protesters released

The eight Jewish Canadian women who were arrested while holding a protest inside the Israeli consulate have been released.

The RCMP arrested and handcuffed the women, who were staging a sit-in protest against the ongoing Israeli assault on Gaza inside the consulate in Toronto. The women were held briefly inside a paddy wagon, but were not charged and were released.

A paddy wagon with the women inside drove past a group of chanting protesters outside the consulate just before 1 p.m.

Included in the group were Israeli peace activists,



Jenny Peto, at centre in blue jacket, speaks to media after being released by police behind the Israeli Consulate in Toronto yesterday. Peto and several other women occupied the consulate in protest against the Israeli assault on the Gaza Strip.

filmmakers, the president of Science for Peace and a variety of students.

"Israel purports to represent all Jews worldwide and these atrocities are not being committed in our name," said spokesperson and filmmaker Cathy

Gulkin, standing outside of the consulate.

"Israel purports to represent all Jews worldwide and these atrocities are not being committed in our name."

Cathy Gulkin

Gulkin, standing outside of the consulate.

She said the point of the protest was to draw attention to the fact that not all members of Toronto's Jewish community support the agenda of the Israeli government. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Court to tackle Wal-Mart closing

SUPREME COURT The country's top court, back to a full complement of nine judges, will weigh Wal-Mart's claim that it did not close a Jonquière, Que., store to crush a fledgling union, as well as a new "responsible journalism" defence to defamation lawsuits during the winter session that starts this month.

Wal-Mart employees laid off in Jonquière in 2005 will have their case against the U.S. retailer heard Jan. 19. The workers claim the company killed their jobs after they exercised their Charter right to organize themselves into a collective bargaining unit in 2004.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

OLG reaches settlement with scratch-ticket 'winner'

LOTTERY Unlucky lotto "winner" Thomas Nofall may not have won the jackpot, but the 27-year-old will take home some cash from the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp. after all.

OLG offered Nofall an apology and an undisclosed financial settlement yesterday after a printing error on his lottery tickets led him to believe he had won \$135,000.

Nofall and his lawyer met with lottery officials yesterday at OLG headquarters in Toronto. After the meeting, Nofall told reporters he is happy with the apology.

"I didn't get my dream, so I'm going to keep playing

"I didn't get my dream, so I'm going to keep playing Lotto 6/49."

Thomas Nofall

Lotto 6/49," Nofall said. "I can keep hoping, can't I?"

The gaming corporation compensated Nofall not because of the misprint, but because an OLG employee told him he could collect

his winnings despite the error, OLG chief executive Kelly McDougald said yesterday.

"It was a very unique situation with Mr. Nofall in that it was very explicit that we made direct miscommunication with him and that's what we're compensating for," said McDougald. "When he called into our call centre to inquire, we gave him some wrongful information."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tory has found a riding: Report

POLITICS Progressive Conservative Leader John Tory's 15-month quest for a seat in the Ontario legislature is almost over.

Sources say MPP Laurie Scott is poised to vacate her Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock riding so the embattled leader can contest a by-election there.

Tory, who has been without a seat since losing in

Don Valley West to Liberal Education Minister Kathleen Wynne in the October 2007 provincial election, indicated yesterday he's in it for the long haul.

"I will announce my plans on Friday and I hope I will have a lot of opportunity in 2009 to be an effective leader," he said in an interview in French with Radio-Canada. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Japan creates greenhouse gas-monitoring satellite

Japan's space agency will launch a satellite later this month to monitor greenhouse gases around the world, officials said yesterday. The Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT), to be launched on Jan. 21, will enable scientists to calculate the density of carbon dioxide and methane from 56,000 locations on the Earth's surface. **REUTERS**

World



Bird flu warning issued

China issued a bird flu alert yesterday after a woman died of the virus, the first such death in the country in almost a year, and closed poultry markets for disinfecting in a province surrounding Beijing. The 19-year-old woman died of the H5N1 virus after gutting nine ducks. Officials say the death appears to be an isolated case. **REUTERS**

U.S. backs Gaza 'ceasefire'

Israeli aircraft and tanks pounded the Gaza Strip yesterday and troops battled Palestinian guerrillas as U.S. backing of a proposed truce raised hope of an end to the 12-day-old offensive.

"We believe a ceasefire is necessary," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said, adding that she was pressing Israel to move forward with an Egyptian proposal backed by Europeans.

Israel's assault resumed

fiercely after a first, brief pause to let Gaza's 1.5 million people stock up on supplies.

With both the outgoing administration of George W. Bush and president-elect Barack Obama speaking out on the need for peace, officials said Israel had agreed with the "principles" of the Egyptian deal and would send an envoy to Cairo to discuss how it might be put into practice. That may yet take time.

However, Israeli minis-

Ottawa announces aid

- Canada announced yesterday that it will provide \$4 million in humanitarian aid to

help ease the crisis in Gaza and repeated calls for an "immediate" ceasefire.

ters put off a decision on whether to launch a new phase of the war by storming Gaza's urban centres.

Hamas said it was looking at the Egyptian plan, which addresses Israel's demand that Hamas be prevented from rearming through smuggling tun-

nels from Egypt.

A further 20 people were killed, medics said, including three children. It took the total of Palestinian deaths to at least 658 — by far the bloodiest episode in decades in the conflict between Israel and Palestinians. **REUTERS**

China lawyer makes bold demand for open books

ACTIVISM A high-profile Chinese lawyer demanded yesterday that the government open its books to the public in an unusually direct display of the legal activism that the Communist Party sees as a growing threat to its rule.

Yan Yiming, an attorney who has made his reputation taking on listed companies that misled investors, presented an application to the Finance Ministry headquarters de-

manding that it publish details of its 2008 expenditure and 2009 budget.

China's ruling Communist Party discloses the barest outline of its spending plans to a submissive parliament every year. Yan wants the government to live up to vows of transparency and accountability — especially with so much of the nation's faltering economic fortunes now resting on state spending plans. **REUTERS**

U.S. Senate Dems moving to seat Blagojevich's appointee

POLITICS In a sudden switch, U.S. Senate Democratic leaders began talks yesterday about swearing in former Illinois attorney general Roland Burris, nominated by embattled Gov. Rod Blagojevich, to take president-elect Barack Obama's place in the Senate.

The turnaround came a day after Burris was barred from the Senate chamber when he arrived to take the oath of office.

Senate Democrats originally said Blagojevich's appointment last month of Burris was tainted since

the governor is accused of having tried to sell the seat to the highest bidder.

Under pressure from party loyalists, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said this week there was room for negotiations.

A senior Democratic aide said they were seeking an "amicable agreement."

The Illinois legislature is considering impeaching Blagojevich, who was arrested by the FBI on Dec. 9 and charged with conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud and solicitation of bribery. **REUTERS**

News in brief

AFRICA Angola's capital Luanda is the world's most expensive place for foreigners, followed by Tokyo, a public relations director for London-based human resources consultant ECA International said yesterday. A recent ECA survey compared a basket of 125 consumer goods and serv-

ices commonly purchased by expatriates in more than 270 locations. Long delays at Luanda's port and damaged infrastructure caused by war continued to inflate the price of goods and services typically used by foreigners in the nation, the survey showed. **REUTERS**

Singapore Museum of Broken Relationships



Creators of the Museum of Broken Relationships exhibition, Drazen Grubisic and Olinka Vistica, shown at the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival 2009. The museum, which opened in Singapore yesterday, is a travelling display of items related to failed relationships donated by people who live in the cities the museum has visited. The exhibit has everything from romantic letters, to photographs, to soft toys, to fur-lined handcuffs. But it also includes unusual exhibits, such as a prosthetic leg donated by a war veteran who fell in love with his physiotherapist.

Motorbike-helmet chaos comes to a head in Nigeria

AFRICA Police in Nigeria have arrested scores of motorcycle taxi riders with fruit shells, paint pots or pieces of rubber tire on their heads to avoid a law forcing them to wear helmets. Motorcyclists complain helmets are too expensive, and some passengers refuse to wear them, fearing they will catch skin disease or be put under a black magic spell. **REUTERS**

30 years since fall of Khmer Rouge

CAMBODIA Thousands of survivors of the Khmer Rouge "Killing Fields" marked 30 years yesterday since the fall of Pol Pot's ultra-Maoist regime, blamed for 1.7 million deaths in a disastrous attempt to create an agrarian utopia. A handful of movement leaders are being tried at a joint Cambodian-UN tribunal. **REUTERS**



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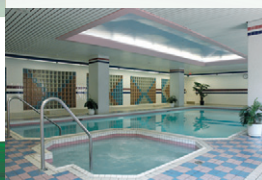
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Comment & Views

Comment

Obamania ... for now

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

In the National Museum of American History, the repository of the U.S.'s past, the curators are not waiting for the inauguration of Barack Obama on Jan. 20.

They have already entered his name and face in its gallery of presidents, a permanent exhibition subtitled "A Glorious Burden." There he is, the smiling 44th president of the United States, the last in a glorious — or inglorious — line stretching from George Washington to George W. Bush.

There is that sense of anticipation in Washington, the imperial city seized with Obamania. It is as if the torch has already been passed; in stores and restaurants of F Street, it is all Obama, all of the time.

In the boutique of the Smithsonian Institution — in America they find the money to tell their story in a national history museum and a national portrait gallery — a clutch of new biographies of Mr. Obama are for sale.

A block from the White House, a large souvenir shop offers nothing but Obama memorabilia. Visitors are greeted by life-size cutouts of the man and a replica of the majestic desk that once belonged in the Oval Office of John F. Kennedy (from which his toddler, John Jr., was famously photographed peeking out from a front panel. Now, in doctored images, Mr. Obama's daughters are peeking out).

The president-elect's face is everywhere — on buttons, cuff links, pens, hot sauce, bookmarks, pins, golf balls, champagne

glasses, dish towels, paperweights, T-shirts. This week newspapers are running stories of Mr. Obama vacationing in Hawaii. They report breathlessly he has a great torso.

It is all very silly, but it shows the prominence of the president in politics, and in the zeitgeist, too. As singer Andy Kim once said of Richard Nixon, "he's everybody's daddy for awhile."

Then again, for a country enfeebled at home and encumbered abroad, facing epochal challenges, the prospect of change is a tonic for an ailing soul.

Inaugurations have long been occasions in America, which is always interested in the next new thing. They are a celebration of democracy as much as an affirmation of partisanship, which is why there is that parade, which goes on for hours, followed by all those extravagant balls.

With that comes

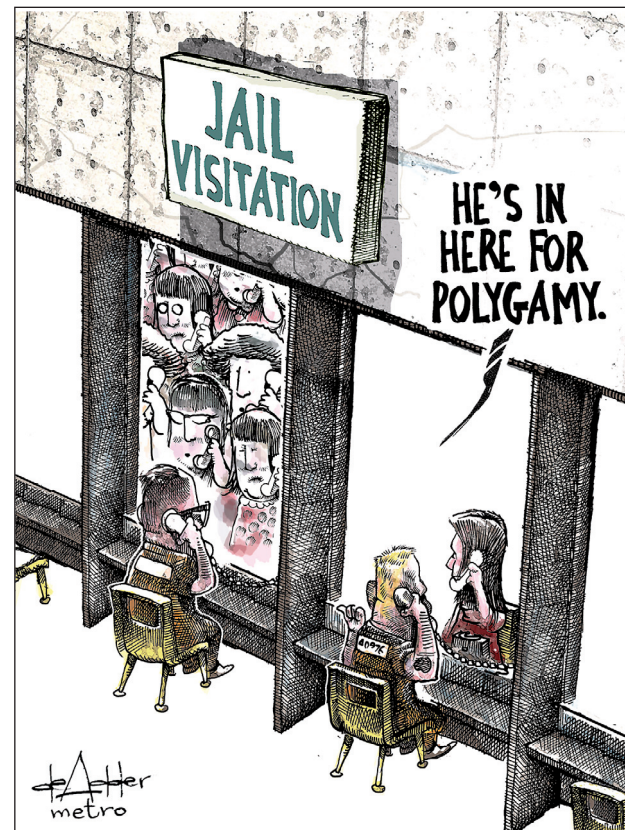
the usual commercialism, which has been around since Washington took the oath of office in 1789. To inaugurate is to commemorate. To commemorate is to sell. No one sells better than Americans.

The inscriptions on all those faux medallions do not say that Barack Obama was the first president born outside the 48 states or that he is the first sitting senator to take office since JFK. It is that Barack Obama is the first black American elected president. It will be the first line of his obituary. The second line, though, will say what he did with it.

The worse things get, the greater the expectations of the new president. His popularity will never be greater than it is today, as he will learn when the parade ends and cheers fade on Jan. 20.

He has been dealt a difficult hand, his burden is great, and it won't always be glorious.

Andrew Cohen teaches journalism at Carleton University. He is the author of *Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson*.



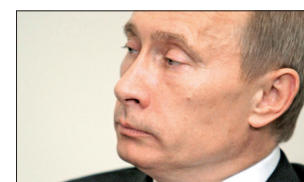
Russia pumps PR muscles in gas conflict with Ukraine

Russia has shown in its gas-price conflict with Ukraine it has learnt some lessons in how to handle the media since being portrayed as the aggressor during a similar dispute in 2006.

Moscow reduced gas supplies to Kiev on Jan. 1, as it did three years ago, cutting flows to European countries which receive gas through Ukraine. But this time, it has fared better in the public relations battle.

Since the dispute in 2006 the Kremlin has hired one of the world's largest public affairs firms, Omnicom.

In 2006, the European Union loudly condemned Moscow and openly questioned Russia's reliability as a supplier. This time Russian



Russian PM Vladimir Putin

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has led Moscow's denunciations of Ukraine's actions during the gas dispute, and Gazprom has launched a website to explain its side of the row — www.gazprom-ukraine-facts.com.

A chief Gazprom's official has also toured European countries, giving briefings and interviews in which he accuses Ukraine of stealing gas meant for Europe.

TOM PERRY/REUTERS

Views

Systemic barriers hurt minorities, business



Wendy Cukier

Diversity is a competitive advantage in the global economy. Canada, with more than 200 ethnic groups speaking more than 100 different languages every day, is considered an inspiration for the rest of the world. But we cannot rest on our laurels. Just two weeks ago, former Ontario chief justice Roy McMurtry and former MPP Alvin Curling released a report on the roots of violence concluding that racism is alive and well. Systemic barriers and the absence of role models can crush the hopes and aspirations of young people. Their

use of the "R" word was deliberate. It makes us bristle, but gets our attention.

Systemic barriers facing visible minorities are not just a problem in "those" neighbourhoods. They affect our governments, our universities and our corporate boardrooms.

The business case for diversity is compelling. In spite of the economic downturn, our aging population and declining birthrate mean that by 2011, all work force growth in Canada will come through immigration. Attracting and retaining immigrants is essential to corporate success. And research shows diversity is good for business — matching the workforce to the communities served helps win the hearts and wallets of consumers.

In 2006, visible minorities were more than 40 per cent of the residents of Toronto and Vancouver; 22.2 per cent of Calgarians and more than 16 per cent of residents in Montreal, Ottawa and Edmonton. But visible minorities, and women, are vastly under-represented in leadership roles. Legislatures, city halls, universities and images of wealth and power dominating the media are dominated by white males.

Many of the barriers to advancement stem from thoughtlessness rather than intention. Most jobs, for example, are never advertised. Employers rely on word of mouth and personal networks. Exclusion from these informal networks, is a huge barrier.

Dr. Margaret Yap, from Ryerson University's Diversi-

ty Institute, co-authored a survey of middle managers in large Canadian corporations and found that visible minorities (and women) are more likely to believe they are held to higher standards of performance and have less mentoring than their white colleagues.

Images of leaders offer role models. They shape goals, expectations and performance. We must watch the gap between our aspirations for a just society and the reality. But clearly the glass is half full. In a short time, Barack Obama has offered a transformative image of leadership, success and power. And we can only hope that more will follow.

Wendy Cukier is the associate dean of the Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson University, and the founder of Ryerson's Diversity Institute.

Quote of the Day

"It's a regrettable failure for the government to not enforce their own laws, meaning that ordinary Canadians must act."

— Jeh Custer, with the Sierra Club of Canada, who is suing oil giant Syncrude, nine months after 500 migratory birds died in an oil sands toxic tailing pond owned by the oil company, which has so far not faced charges.

METRO CANADA

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

'Irrelevant' Penthouse earns little, owner says

Social networking company FriendFinder Networks Inc., the parent of iconic men's magazine Penthouse, says the magazine is "irrelevant" and contributes little financially to company earnings, but the company says it won't shut down the magazine. **REUTERS**

7

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Traders play high-stakes oil game

DROP Crude oil prices fell 12 per cent yesterday, the largest percentage drop in seven years, after a U.S. inventory report showed a glut in the market.

But the perception there will be a rebound in demand during the second half of the year has some traders playing a high-stakes game — chartering supertankers to purchase and store huge volumes of inexpensive oil that can be sold on the futures market at a healthy profit.

A barrel of crude plunged \$5.95 US to \$42.63 in New York, backtracking on a week of gains. The decline was blamed largely on a U.S. report that showed crude inventories increased by 6.68 million barrels. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

2009 off to 'terrible' start

Bank experts see no growth

The Canadian economy is in for a rough ride through the first half of the year and will see little or no growth in 2009 as the recession takes hold, economists from Canada's largest banks said yesterday.

The economy will also continue to shed thousands of jobs and the unemployment rate will move higher as fallout from the global financial crisis takes its toll.

The comments by a panel of leading domestic bank economists at an Economic Club of Canada event in Toronto, came ahead of key data due tomorrow that is expected to

"The first half of 2009 looks pretty terrible for Canada."

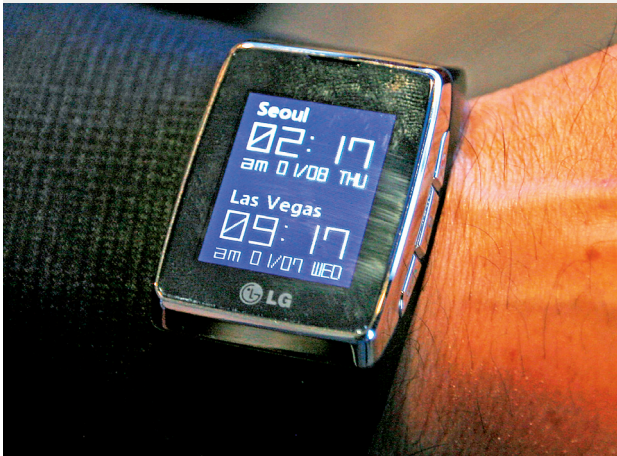
Don Drummond

show the economy shed 22,000 jobs in December. That would follow a loss of 70,600 jobs in November.

"The first half of 2009 looks pretty terrible for Canada," said Don Drummond, chief economist at Toronto-Dominion Bank.

The slowdown in the global economy which wreaked havoc on financial markets is expected to keep weighing on the economy. **REUTERS**

Smart **Times, they are a changin'**



LG Electronics unveils the world's first market-ready touch watch phone with 3G video telephony and GSM quadband network capabilities at a consumer electronics show in Las Vegas yesterday. The phone features a Flash interface, MP3 player, voice calling, text messaging and text to speech.

Business in brief

MARKETS U.S. stocks suffered their worst decline in a month yesterday as data showing fur-

ther labour market deterioration heightened worries about the recession. **REUTERS**

Outsourcing firm's boss steps down

SCANDAL The head of Indian outsourcing firm Satyam Computer Services, Ramalinga Raju, resigned yesterday, disclosing that profits had been falsely inflated for years and sending its shares tumbling nearly 80 per cent. India's biggest corporate scandal threatens future foreign investment flows. **REUTERS**

Watchdog wants 911 upgrade

CELLPHONES The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission is expected to give cellphone companies until February 2010 to change their system so dispatchers can locate the origin of a 911 call, CBC News Online reports. It will make a formal decision in February. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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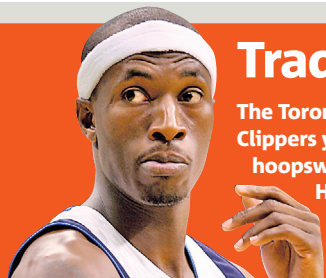
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Arizona Cardinals receiver Anquan Boldin, left, rested his injured hamstring yesterday and said he's not sure if he will play in the divisional playoff at Carolina on Saturday. Boldin hurt the hamstring during Arizona's victory over Atlanta last Saturday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports



Trade, trade rumours in Raptorland

The Toronto Raptors traded little-used Hassan Adams and cash to the Los Angeles Clippers yesterday for a future second-round draft pick, while websites such as hoopsworld.com alluded to a potential deal with the Dallas Mavericks for Josh Howard, left. The rumoured trade would send Andrea Bargnani and Anthony Parker to Dallas. Bargnani, meanwhile, scored 25 points last night as Toronto beat Washington 99-93. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA



Buffalo's Andrew Peters reacts after being bitten by Jarkko Ruutu on Tuesday.

Ruutu gets two for biting

NHL Senators forward Jarkko Ruutu was suspended two games without pay yesterday for allegedly biting Buffalo Sabres forward Andrew Peters in Tuesday's contest between Ottawa and Buffalo.

The incident occurred in the first period of the contest, which was eventually won by the Sabres, 4-2.

During a skirmish near the players' benches, Peters had a glove in Ruutu's face and the Buffalo forward came away from the gathering shaking a gloveless hand.

Peters complained to officials on the ice and was seen on the Sabres' bench mouthing that Ruutu bit him. Peters continued to make that claim after the contest.

Ruutu told reporters after the game that while Peters' gloved hand ended up in his mouth, he did not bite him.

Ruutu was not penalized on the play, but the suspension was handed down only hours after Ruutu had an over-the-phone hearing with NHL senior executive vice-president of hockey operations Colin Campbell.

The suspension covers contests with the Boston Bruins tonight and the New York Rangers on Saturday, and he will not be eligible to return to action until Jan. 13 when the Senators face the Carolina Hurricanes.

As a repeat offender, Ruutu will also forfeit \$31,707.32 in salary, which is automatically added to the Players' Emergency Assistance Fund.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Melnyk denies rumours

Reports of imminent firings atop the Ottawa Senators' organization are untrue, club owner Eugene Melnyk insists.

Melnyk released a statement yesterday that there was no merit to suggestions in *Le Journal de Montreal* that said Melnyk is about to hire veteran NHL coach Pat Quinn and Hockey Canada president Bob Nicholson to replace Craig Hartsburg and Bryan Murray, respectively.

"Contrary to what is be-

ing reported today by the media, I have made no decisions with respect to any personnel changes within the Senators organization," Melnyk said. "Winning remains our No. 1 priority, and there is a collective focus ... to deliver this to our fans."

Quinn, 64, hasn't coached in the NHL in more than two seasons. On Monday night, he coached the Canadian junior team to a world championship.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Eugene Melnyk dismissed talk of hiring Pat Quinn.

Senators looking at a stark reality

Jarkko Ruutu isn't the only thing that bites for the Ottawa Senators. Reality does, too.

And the reality is that the Senators are far better positioned to get John Tavares or Victor Hedman in June than they are to make the playoffs this season.

Going into tonight's game against the Boston Bruins, the Senators are the proud owners of 32 points, just four points ahead of the 30th place New York Islanders, who have played three more games than the Senators.

Looking up, the Senators trail the eighth-place Buffalo Sabres by 13 points and their playoff hopes look more grim by the day. Since the lockout, it has required an average of 93 points to qualify for the playoffs in the Eastern Conference and it will be somewhere about that again this season.

That means the Senators will need 61 points in their final 44 games just to even be in the hunt for a playoff

TheHockeyNews

Ken Campbell

thehockeynews.com

spot.

Therefore, a team that has sported just a .421 winning percentage to this point will have to play .693 the rest of the way and even that might not be enough.

Mike Fisher has a better chance of getting a date with Carrie Underwood than that happening.

Hey, wait a minute...

In any event, the Senators are in a deep, deep hole. If they continue to bumble their way along this season, they'll undoubtedly have a high draft pick and the summer to decide whether they want to blow up a roster that will likely be about 25 points worse than it was the year before.

Or they could decide to do that now and could start

by firing coach Craig Hartsburg and hiring Pat Quinn, who just led Canada to the world junior championship. That, at least in the opinion of this corner, would be a mistake.

For whatever reason, Hartsburg has been unable to change the culture of a dressing room rife with a sense of

entitlement and a country-club atmosphere.

If nothing else, Quinn is a player's coach when what the Senators need now more than anything is someone who will make them all accountable and instill some strict structure in their play.

Quinn isn't the man to do that.

Sens fans at least have Carrie Underwood to talk about.



Western all-star roster filled out

NHL Vancouver Canucks goalie Robert Luongo, Edmonton Oilers defenceman Sheldon Souray and Calgary Flames forward Jarome Iginla were among 15 players added to the NHL's Western Conference all-star team yesterday.

Other veterans included were the Detroit Red Wings' Pavel Datsyuk and Nicklas Lidstrom, the Dallas Stars' Mike Modano, the St. Louis Blues' Keith Tkachuk, the Colorado Avalanche's Milan Hejduk, the Columbus Blue Jackets' Rick Nash and the Phoenix Coyotes' Shane Doan. Additions to the Eastern team will be announced today.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Setta turns down NFL interest

CFL Kicker-punter Nick Setta has chosen to re-sign with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats instead of joining the NFL. A CFL all-star in each of the past two seasons, Setta signed a contract that will keep him in Hamilton through at least the 2011 season.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Montreal 6 N.Y. Rangers 3
Vancouver at Edmonton

TONIGHT'S GAMES

OTTAWA at Boston, 7
Atlanta at New Jersey, 7
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 7
Toronto at Montreal, 7:30
Carolina at Florida, 7:30
Dallas at Detroit, 7:30
Pittsburgh at Nashville, 8
Chicago at Colorado, 9
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, 9
Tampa Bay at Phoenix, 9
Anaheim at Los Angeles, 10:30

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Toronto 99 Washington 93
Cleveland 111 Charlotte 81
Orlando 106 Atlanta 102
Memphis at New Jersey
Houston at Boston
Philadelphia at Milwaukee
Oklahoma City at Minnesota
Miami at Denver
Indiana at Phoenix
New Orleans at Utah
Detroit at Portland
L.A. Lakers at Golden State

J.J. SAID
IT WOULD!

J.J. Clarke

ctvottawa.ca

CTV
NEWS

OTTAWA'S WEATHER LEADER

Forecast sluggish

Many economists around the world expect the global economy to remain slow in 2009, with a recovery not due until 2010. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Tech Now



Bottled up

Motorola Inc. unveiled the W233 Renew — a cell phone made of recycled water bottles — at this week's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, in an attempt to cash in on consumers' desire for environmentally friendly products. **REUTERS**

Tech may be in for a tough year

What will 2009 bring for the tech industry and for you as a consumer of tech products? Wayne Gudbranson, head of the Branham group in Ottawa, tracks Canada's tech sector. Every spring he produces a list of the top firms.

Early data shows average revenue growth has dropped from 44 per cent to 22 per cent and for those companies reporting in December 2008, revenue growth has dropped to 12 per cent.

Gudbranson urges tech clients to spend some mon-

TechNow

Paul Brent

technow@ctv.ca



ey now to be in a better position when things improve. However, there's no shortage of firms laying off — from Mitel to Corel, to Nortel cutting another 125 jobs in Ottawa and perhaps staring at bankruptcy within weeks.

Outside of Ottawa, it can be even tougher. The San Jose Mercury recently re-

ported that 75 per cent of firms in Silicon Valley may close or merge before all is said and done.

We will see a U.S. stimulus program under President Obama that will inject cash into tech infrastructure. It's far from clear whether the Tories will do the same in their upcoming budget.

On the consumer side, many of us will also be wary about spending money on tech. Gartner Consulting says sales of many tech toys will drop 15 per cent and cell phone sales will dip 10 per cent.

Wireless applications will continue to grow, especial-



This year holds more uncertainty for the tech sector.

ly related to GPS, said Don Campbell, CTO at the former Cognos. You will know what is around you, the information will be tailored to you and it will be there for the asking.

Video gaming has seen its first slowdown in years but it will still dominate our leisure time and be ever more realistic.

Social networking tech-

niques will continue to surface in the workplace. If federal departments like Natural Resources can have a reasonably successful wiki and teach other departments how to do it, then it really is moving into the mainstream.

Ottawa needs some excitement in tech with more companies prepared to talk about what they're doing

"Ottawa is in a fight to keep its title as Canada's Silicon Valley, and the next year will be a pivotal one."

rather than what they're not doing. Gudbranson said Ottawa is in a fight to keep its title as Canada's Silicon Valley, and the next year will be a pivotal one.

Website of the week

• lists.webjunction.org/lib web has links to nearly 8,000 thousand libraries in 146 countries.

Upcoming show

This Sunday, one of the stories on Tech Now will be a look at how technology can help Canada's native people's reclaim their traditions. And don't forget to check our website ctvottawa.ca.

Be sure to watch Tech Now this Sunday as part of the CTV NEWS at 6 p.m.

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TECH NOW

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Sundays 6:00

OTTAWA'S NEWS LEADER

CTV NEWS

ctvottawa.ca

"I like to draw a parallel between dressing your home and dressing yourself," says Samantha Pynn, host of Pure Design. "Just as you wouldn't buy the entire outfit off the mannequin, don't go too crazy with all new things. Work with what you have." HGTV.CA

Metro Homes

Warm thoughts

Gardeners used to make it through winter by curling up with a stack of seed catalogues — now, they're more likely to browse online. If you've never gone seed surfing, start with gardennorth.com, which is a top-notch resource for Canadian plant nuts. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Everything in its place

Post-holiday cleanups are never fun, but they're a good chance to pare down

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescape

your holiday decorations.

Protect your breakable or fragile ornaments by packing them into their original containers; failing that, wrap them in protective tissue and place them in plastic cups or similar protective containers.

Wreaths or imitation evergreen boughs should also be packaged in protective plastic or paper.

Load your decorations into clear plastic bins, which are useful and can be used year after year, unlike cardboard containers which will tear and break down after a year or two. Remember to label these bins with a list of what's inside — you'll be extra pleased with yourself when next year's festive season starts.

I don't know about you, but I enjoy seeing cheery Christmas lights into the snowy post-holiday period, for maybe a month or so. Just don't leave them there too long, because they just



Packing holiday items away into clear containers, such as these Samla bins from Ikea, means you can see what's stored where.

don't feel right when people are eagerly anticipating the Easter bunny.

When you do take the lights down, place strings in separate bags before you store the bags in a box. And do not overload — too much weight can crush the lights in the bottom layer.

When it comes to integrating new stuff into your home, remember my sister-in-law's rule that new stuff in means old stuff out. The size of your closet shouldn't change — only its contents change. If there's an item you're not wearing, there's probably a good reason. Trust your gut on this one and pack it into the Sally Ann bag. Then, and only then, can you hang up your brand new outfit.

Of course, when it comes to gifts, just because you re-

Seasonal storage

- Remember to label your storage bins with a list of the items they contain.

ceived it doesn't mean you have to keep it. You may decide to return or get rid of it because it just isn't your thing and you can't imagine anyone else ever needing it.

Or, you may decide to keep it for regifting. Just remember to include a little label that lists the name of the person who gave it to you before you store the item. That way, you don't make the embarrassing mistake of giving it back to the person it came from.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

'New home' doesn't mean 'perfect home'

After almost a year of living in their new townhouse in Uxbridge, Ont., Libby McCready and her husband figured there was little wrong with their home.

But Libby's parents, who had bought several new houses over the years, urged them to take the time to fill out the Tarion new home warranty program's one-year report listing any issues.

As neither Libby nor her husband had much knowledge or experience with home building or repairs, they hired home inspector Brian Daley to have a look.

"We wanted to make sure we caught everything, but we're not handy," says McCready. "Brian found a number of things we never would have noticed. The stuff he found came as a surprise."

The most significant defect Daley found was that the clothes dryer hadn't been vented properly, thus was not blowing outdoors but into insulation, which could have eventually caused a moisture and mould issue. He also noted that the plumbing to a toilet in a seldom-used second bathroom wasn't on the right angle for flushing, that a promised rough-in for an electrical fan for the fireplace was not completed and that attic insulation

The whole story

- While builders provide a pre-delivery inspection (PDI) for buyers to note defects, registered home inspector Brian Daley says these are more geared to cosmetic issues.

had been flattened in places.

Armed with Daley's report and digital photos, the McCreadys filled out the Tarion Warranty Corp. forms by the one-year deadline and as a result, those issues are covered.

"Although everything turned out fine, I'd never move in to a brand-new house again without having a home inspection done right away," says McCready.

Unfortunately, most new homebuyers mistakenly "believe their new house is perfect," says Daley.

Homes in Ontario are covered by the Tarion warranty for deposit insurance, protection against defects in work and materials, against unauthorized substitutions and against delayed closings and occupancies without proper notice. The most common claims relate to defects in work and materials, which require homeowners to submit deficiencies at 30-day and one-year deadlines.

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Food for thought

Whole grain, trans-fat free and low fat items led the charge in terms of products that were eaten by Canadian consumers on a weekly basis with a growing trend towards organic products continuing into 2009, according to the latest Eating Patterns In Canada (EPIC) report from The NPD Group. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

11

Food

"Is it a pea, a bean, or a pulse? Pulses are the dried edible seeds of legumes and includes beans, peas (such as chickpeas) and lentils."

Barb Holland/for Metro Canada



Not a nut

Peanuts are also a legume, not a nut, despite its name.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Lean and mean: Lentils and beans

À la carte

Barb Holland

Metro Food Writer

The cake and cookies are finished and the decorations tucked away for another year.

Healthy eating, hand-in-hand with being more physically active, are high on everyone's "to do" list after Jan. 1. So, it's back to business as we tighten our financial belts as well as try to re-tighten the one stretches around our waists.

What's economical, packs a healthy punch in the nutrient ring and is convenient? Canned beans, peas and lentils.

Beans, peas and lentils are a high source of both soluble and insoluble fibre as well as a source of B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorus, potassium and zinc. In addition, they're low in fat, cholesterol free and the richest source of vegetable protein. With the exception of soybeans, beans alone do not contain all the essential amino acids to be



Canned beans, peas and lentils can be a bit salty, but a drain and a rinse quickly removes most of the sodium. Toss in salads, soups, casseroles or puree into a dip or spread.

classified as a complete protein. But when complemented with a grain (rice, bread or pasta), a seed, nut or a dairy or egg protein, they become complete.

Keep a variety of canned beans in your pantry for frugal, fast and healthy meals. This vegetarian

recipe will satisfy your hunger at the end of a busy day.

Mediterranean Tomato, Lentil and Spinach Soup

Serve this hearty vegetarian soup with crusty whole wheat bread for a complete meal. I like the sharp and slightly salty ad-

dition of freshly grated good Parmesan cheese, but omit if serving to vegans. Makes 8 cups (2 L), 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, mined

- 1 tsp (5 ml) dried basil leaves
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each dried oregano and thyme leaves
- Pinch each dried rosemary leaves, crumbled and pepper
- 3 cups (750 ml) vegetable stock
- 28 oz (796 ml) can diced tomatoes, including juice

- 19 oz (540 ml) can lentils, drained and rinsed
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 3 cups (750 ml) fresh baby spinach leaves
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese, optional

METHOD:

Heat oil in large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion, celery and garlic and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in seasonings, tomatoes, lentils and lemon juice. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer, covered for 5 to 10 minutes.

Stir in spinach leaves until wilted, about 30 seconds. Serve with Parmesan, if desired.

Tips:

• Canned beans, peas and lentils can be a bit salty, but a drain and a rinse quickly removes most of the sodium. And, once that's done, they're good to go. Toss in salads, soups, casseroles or puree into a dip or spread.

• If you have whole tomatoes rather than diced, an easy way to cut up tomatoes is using kitchen shears. Pour tomato liquid into soup (to avoid a messy overflow in can) and cut tomatoes in the can.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

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France's first lady Carla Bruni-Sarkozy has been awarded \$57,500 in damages after she sued a fashion company for adorning a canvas shopping bag with a 1993 nude photo of her. Lawyers for Bruni-Sarkozy have suggested her monetary award would be given to charity. **PEOPLE.COM**

Carla Bruni-Sarkozy wins lawsuit

Style



Woodsy look is being embraced

Paul Bunyan, the supersized he-man, is a fashion icon. As unlikely as it sounds, the mythical lumberjack's black-and-red check jacket has been a big trend on catwalks around the world. But this time around, Ralph Lauren took the rugged masculine checks and turned them into evening gowns, sometimes mixing chic plaid shirts with feathered skirts. Now it's the streetwear retailers who have created new shapes for the lumberjack jacket in sharp, belted trenches and smart peacoats. Left: belted trench, \$158, Gap.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Style File



Kim Elbo

kim.elbo@gmail.com

ask kim

I prefer running outside as oppose to treadmills, but I dread when it rains because I can't stand when my feet and socks get wet. What do you suggest I do to fix this problem?

Running shoes are primarily made out of mesh materials to make the shoe lighter, but I suggest looking for outdoor trainers that have a Gore-Tex lining (some actually say that on the shoe) to help keep the moisture out.

E-mail your style questions to kim.elbo@gmail.com.



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Designer: Nike
Shop: Nike Store
Address: Various Locations
nike.com



Hoody
Designer: Lululemon
Shop: Lululemon
Address: Various Locations
lululemon.com



Full Zip
Designer: Peak Performance
Shop: Peak Performance
peakperformance.com

Workout Wear

You know you made a new year's resolution to workout more and eat less, so motivate yourself by going out and buying a couple of items for the gym. If you like to cover up, here are three great looks for indoor or outdoor workouts. When you're out shopping for motivation, look for details in the clothing like all-around 360 reflectors for night time running. For shirts, make sure there is a bit of ribbing so that the shirt falls away from your body.

tip: Heat can sap the elasticity from your fitness clothes. To avoid this menace, wash your fitness clothes in cool water, and always opt to drip dry. (mamashealth.com).



Old School
Designer: Nike
Shop: Nike Store
Address: Various Locations
nike.com



Starter
Designer: asics
Shop: The Run Inn
runinn.com



Pro
Designer: Mizuno
Shop: Running Room
Address: Various Locations
runningroom.com

Running Shoes

There are three things to look out for when buying a proper running shoe: the first is to buy a shoe that fits your proper arch type, the second is to make sure the shoe is at least a half size bigger than your regular street shoe (this is to compensate for swelling as your feet heat up) and the third is to make sure you can run with comfort (so sufficient cushioning is needed).

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

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The necklace makes a statement

Literally and figuratively — the necklace is big this year. Throughout recent seasons, designers have supersized handbags into steamer trunk proportions. And they've elevated the ordinary stiletto to stratospheric heights.

Now, after achieving such overwhelming bulk with accessories like bags and shoes, they have turned their attention to jewellery — in particular, the necklace.

Leading international brands including Burberry, Lanvin and Louis Vuitton went for the jugular this fall, burdening women's décolleté with glass chunks resembling massive precious and semi-precious stones.

This is costume jewellery

gone berserk. So pack away your simple strand of pearls, your heirloom chokers and discreet pendants. You can bring them out another day.

"This is no season for the faint of heart," says Oriella Stillo, owner of Accessity in Toronto, Ont. "You've got to have confidence to wear these necklaces," she says.

These muscular necklaces riff on jewellery's many traditional roles — as an objet for self-decoration, as an amulet to ward off evil and as a striking symbol of personal wealth. They are state-

ment pieces. While, on the surface, the times may not seem right for such showiness, Stillo insists that's not the case. "During the Depression of the 1930s big Bakelite and Lucite jewellery was popular. Women needed something to make them feel good," she says.

No one is fooling anyone — which is why the ostentatious necklace with rocks as big as baseballs still works even in this hard economic era. Stillo says she retails big necklaces as inexpensively as \$250. "What dress can you find that will give you that wow factor?" she asks. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Banana Republic Carolyn Brooch necklace, \$124.





Charmed actress Alyssa Milano is engaged to top Hollywood agent, David Bugliari. The pair has been together for over a year, and Bugliari proposed to the actress just before Christmas, according to usmagazine.com. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Celebrity Buzz

I didn't know marriage was fake: Spencer

MARRIAGE Spencer Pratt acknowledges that his marriage to Heidi Montag was fake — but only because he was uninformed, in-touchweekly.com reports.

"I didn't even know you have to legalize a wedding," claims Spencer, who tied the knot with Heidi, 22, in a nonbinding ceremony on Nov. 19 in Mexico. "I thought growing up, you say 'I do' and you're married."



Rihanna sporting rock on finger

RELATIONSHIP R&B sensation Rihanna may be ready to tie the knot with singer Chris Brown.

Rihanna was spotted at Elton John's New Year's Eve bash in London sporting fingerless leather gloves that made it easier to see a massive diamond ring on her wedding ring finger.

Brown allegedly popped the question over the New Year, according to Britain's the Sun newspaper.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Weight loss no big deal: Kristen

HEALTH Even though actress Kristen Johnston dropped 60 lbs. after suffering a burst ulcer, her pal Sarah Jessica Parker didn't get why everyone made such a fuss, usmagazine.com reports.

"She said to me, ... 'You're the only actress I've ever met who doesn't have a body issue at all,'" Johnston, 41, said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No bad feelings between Jen and Angie, Brad says

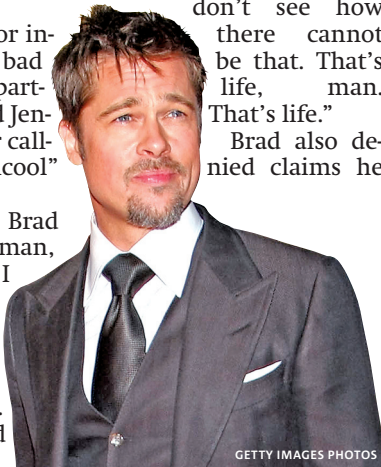
RELATIONSHIP Brad Pitt says ex-wife Jennifer Aniston is a "sweetheart," reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The 44-year-old actor insists there are no bad feelings between his partner Angelina Jolie and Jennifer, despite Jennifer calling Angelina "very uncool" in a recent interview.

The website quotes Brad as saying: "Listen, man, Jen is a sweetheart. I think she got dragged into that one, and then there's a second round to all that Angie versus Jen. It's so created. Jen and

I still check in with each other. She was a big part of my life, and me hers. I don't see how there cannot be that. That's life, man. That's life."

Brad also denied claims he



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

and Angelina started dating while he was still with Jennifer, insisting reports they began a relationship on the set of 2005 movie Mr. and Mrs. Smith were false.

He said to W magazine: "What people don't understand is that we filmed Mr. and Mrs. Smith for a year. We were still filming after Jen and I split up. Even then it doesn't mean that there was some kind of dastardly affair. There wasn't. I'm very proud of the way that it was handled. It was respectful."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

George and Paris together?

RELATIONSHIP Life & Style and In Touch are both claiming the "down to earth" Paris Hilton has been cozying up to George Clooney, msn.com reports.

Seems the typically brunette-preferring, two-time Sexiest Man Alive, 47 — who split from Las Vegas cocktail waitress Sarah Larson in May — and Hilton, 27 — who called it quits with "best friend" Benji Madden in November — were twice spotted out together in Los Angeles last month.

The first sighting took place on Dec. 19 at the Whiskey

Bar, where George and Paris supposedly chitchatted, downed drinks, flashed their pearly whites and maintained constant eye contact, msn.com says.

"They were laughing and smiling at each other throughout the night," a spy tells L&S, with another adding to In Touch, "They were gazing into each other's eyes and smiling and laughing."

The following night, the implausible pair was reportedly seen breaking bread at Dan Tana's with an eclectic group of stars and friends.

"Paris was flirting big-time," an eyewitness recalls to In Touch. "And George was soaking it up." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Baby stress for Jennifer and Marc

MARRIAGE Solo trips to Las Vegas, public appearances without their wedding rings — what's up with Marc Anthony and Jennifer Lopez? According to those who observed them on a holiday vacation to Puerto Rico, nothing, people.com reports.

People.com says that on their trip, the couple rang in the New Year poolside, and had a cozy dinner together at Marmalade

restaurant in Old San Juan.

While both their reps tell the magazine that the couple is "great," one insider says their marriage isn't perfect. "They've been arguing."

The likely cause? The growing pains that come with

raising 10-month-old twins Max and Emme.

"The marriage is experiencing frustrations because of the added stress of the twins," says another source, "but they will work things out. They love each other."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Britney loses control

PEOPLE It's official: Britney Spears cannot take care of herself. According to Access Hollywood, court papers have been filed giving her father, Jamie, permanent control of her finances and personal life.

Jamie was given temporary control in October. The

papers state that Britney "is substantially unable to manage ... her financial resources or to resist fraud or undue influence."

They also describe the singer "is unable properly to provide for his or her personal needs for physical health, food, clothing, or shelter."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



No custody battle, Jodie hopes

LEGAL Jodie Sweetin and estranged husband Cody Herpin "are working hard to avoid a protracted custody battle," the actress's lawyer tells people.com

The former Full House star, 26, and Herpin, 31, attended their first joint mediation session this week at an Orange County, Calif., court.

"They're trying to work

things out regarding the sharing of their child," attorney Wilma Presley says. "As far as reconciliation as a couple goes, in family law, you just never know."

Despite recent court drama, "Jodie is doing very well," Presley adds. "She had a very nice Christmas. She had her daughter on Christmas Eve and morning, and so far, the sharing has been smooth."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Pink wants to give away ex

RELATIONSHIP Pink wants to give her estranged husband away if he marries again, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer has revealed she and Carey Hart have remained close since they separated last year, and she would support him if he ever decides to commit to someone else.

Pink, 29, said: "I told him that I would give him away at his next wed-

ding."

The couple announced they were planning to divorce in February 2008 after two years of marriage.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Hathaway hates weddings

PEOPLE Anne Hathaway hates weddings, despite starring as a battling bride in new film, Bride Wars, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

She says, "Weddings have never really been my thing. I really have never thought about it. I

just want a good husband." Instead, she would rather skip the wedding day charade in the hope of living a happier life.

Hathaway has appeared in a string of wedding films including Rachel Getting Married, The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



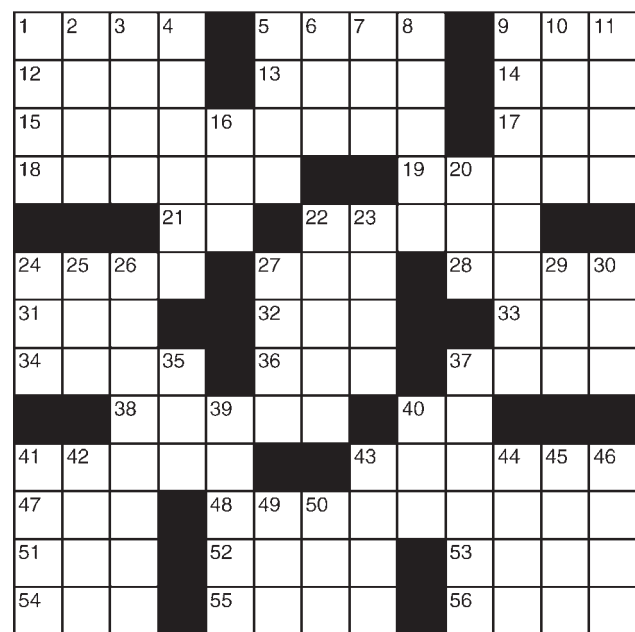
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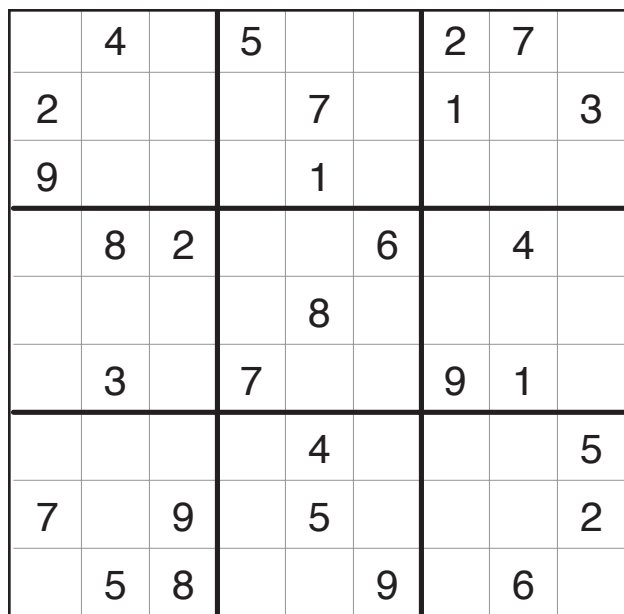
For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



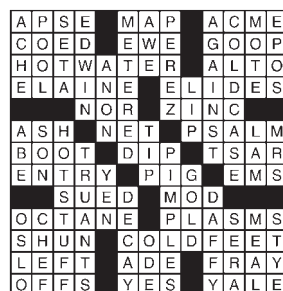
Crossword across

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Heche or Hathaway | lengtheners? | 41 Dictation taker |
| 5 Kine | 27 Snake eyes | 43 Not quite |
| 9 Aries | 28 Lummoxes | 47 Spoon-bender Geller |
| 12 "Groovy" | 31 Antiquated | 48 "Deliverance" actor |
| 13 "Hi, sailor!" | 32 Toward the stern | 51 Puppeteer Baird |
| 14 First lady? | 33 Savings acronym | 52 Canal zone |
| 15 "Becker" star | 34 Puff | 53 Dance lesson |
| 17 Part of DJIA | 36 Greek consonants | 54 Fa-la link |
| 18 Record container | 37 Let fall | 55 Hourglass fill |
| 19 Go on all fours | 38 Dynamite inventor | 56 Japanese zither |
| 21 Concerning | 40 Author Milne | |
| 22 Plant louse | | |
| 24 Nose | | |

Crossword down

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Gospels' follow-up | to — | 41 Long lunches |
| 2 Yuletide refrain | 22 Terrible | 42 Small combo |
| 3 Protuberance | 23 Cookware | 43 Sleeping |
| 4 Respectable people? | 24 High-arc shot | 44 Sgt. Snorkel's dog |
| 5 Chaplin prop | 25 Under the weather | 45 Undo a dele |
| 6 Surprise cries | 26 Al Bundy's portrayer | 46 Glitch in print |
| 7 Court | 27 Domesticate | 49 Historic time |
| 8 Simultaneity | 29 To and — | 50 Cacophony |
| 9 Famed oilfield firefighter | 30 Tree fluid | |
| 10 Acknowledge | 35 Took the prize | |
| 11 Kitten's remark | 37 Grayish red | |
| 16 Rd. | 39 Skeleton components | |
| 20 "Flying Down | 40 Milwaukee product | |

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 min	Smart
Under 13 min	21-25 min	Not bad
13-17 min	25+ min	Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Pork chops with parsnips and maple pear wedges

INGREDIENTS:

4 lean pork chops, trimmed of fat
 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
 2 tbsp (25 ml) chopped fresh sage
 1/2 tsp (2 ml) fennel seeds, roughly crushed
 1/4 cup (60 ml) balsamic vinegar
 2 red onions, quartered
 4 potatoes (about 1 lb/500 g in total), peeled and quartered
 2 large parsnips, peeled and quartered lengthways
 1 large pear, ripe but firm
 2 tbsp (25 ml) maple syrup

METHOD:

1. Place chops in wide dish. Sprinkle over oil, garlic, sage, fennel seeds and 2 tbsp (25 ml) balsamic vinegar. Turn to coat evenly, then cover and place in refrigerator to marinate for 1 hour.
 2. Preheat oven to 400 F (200 C). Combine onions,

potatoes and parsnips in large roasting pan. Add pork chops with marinade and turn vegetables to coat evenly. Spread out vegetables in a single layer, with chops on top. Season to taste. Roast for about 40 minutes until vegetables are tender and golden.
 3. Core pear and cut into eight slices. Toss in remaining balsamic vinegar and maple syrup. Remove roasting pan from oven and arrange pear slices over chops, spooning over syrup mixture.
 4. Return to oven and roast for a further 10-12 minutes until pears are tender. Serve pork chops topped with pear slices and juices, with roasted vegetables alongside.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20



A commotion forces you to look for an adviser. A bullying fool comes between you and an outsider. You'll enjoy an unforgettable day.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23



Someone's attention puts a sparkle in your eye. A friendly employer has a hidden agenda. Unusual risks will be taken by the usual person.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21



You'll influence a thoughtful person. A woman will give you a moving response. A relevant call will change your opinion.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22



A wise guy's chatter will exhaust you. Don't make the first move when you're doubtful. A know-it-all wants to make a good impression.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21



You'll ditch a fruitless task. A thin guy is in a crude predicament. Somebody can help you in a boring situation.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21



A woman won't hide her feelings. Someone is just begging for more attention. A thoughtless person will tease you.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22



A collector wants to concentrate on the good news. A companion gives you a fine gift. Financial opportunities will gratify a senior.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20



You'll witness some moments of bad behaviour. A schemer wants to spend time with you. You'll be able to tolerate a lack of sympathy.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23



An awkward man disputes a change. You'll feel like you're moving the wrong way. Pleasure can be shared with a rebel.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18



Something serious takes place. Political issues cause talk of tribulation. A magnetic man will prove to be trustworthy.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22



Keep a straight face when someone asks you to pay. Don't mess around with a miracle worker. A whiny friend needs to see a therapist.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20



A suspicious person has lousy luck. Pay no heed to disgruntled people. You'll find a way to avoid temptation.

This day in history

JAN. 8, 1790: George Washington delivers the first State of the Union Address in New York City.
 JAN. 8, 1835: The United States' national debt is \$0 for the only time.
 JAN. 8, 1940: World War II: Britain introduces food rationing.
 JAN. 8, 1959: Fidel Castro's Cuban Revolution is completed with the take over of Santiago de Cuba.
 JAN. 8, 1994: Russian cosmonaut Valeri Polyakov on Soyuz TM-18 leaves for Mir. He would stay on the space station until March 22, 1995, for a record 437 days in space.

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